

Social Functions and Risk Management

In order to support the fraternity and sorority chapters in their pursuit of legal and ethical hosting of social functions, Southeast Missouri State University has established the standards listed below:

All social functions must be held in compliance with University, national/international fraternity/sorority, chapter, local, state and federal laws and regulations. Particularly, individuals and groups are expected to abide by the Southeast Missouri State University alcohol policy **and the additional policies listed below.**

Southeast Missouri State University Greek Life Risk Management Policy

Alcohol

1. The possession, sale, use and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages while on campus or chapter premises, during an official organization event, or in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, or at any event where an observer would associate with the organization must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of the state, province, county, city and institution of higher education.
2. No alcoholic beverages may be purchased through the chapter treasury nor may the purchase of same for members or guests be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of, or on behalf of the chapter. The purchase or use of bulk quantity or common sources of such alcoholic beverages (e.g. kegs or cases) are prohibited.
3. Open parties, meaning those with unrestricted access by non-members of the organization, without specific invitation, where alcohol is present, shall be prohibited. *Examples of determination of open party: the event was advertised or promoted (word of mouth, flyers, sidewalk chalk), chapter executive board members are present, the chapter owns/rents/controls location where event was held, a reasonable person assumes it to be a chapter event.*
4. No members, collectively or individually, shall purchase for, serve to, or sell alcoholic beverages to any minor (i.e. those under the legal drinking age)
5. No chapter may co-sponsor an event with an alcohol distributor, charitable organization or tavern (tavern defined as an establishment generating more than half of annual gross sales from alcohol) where alcohol is given away, sold or otherwise provided to those present. This includes any event held in, at, or on the property of a tavern (as defined above) for purposes of fundraising. A chapter may rent or use a closed room or area in a tavern (as defined above) for a closed event held within the provisions of this policy.
6. No chapter may co-sponsor or co-finance, attend, or participate in a function where alcohol is purchased by any of the host chapters or organizations.
7. All recruitment activities associated with any chapter will be dry recruitment functions. No recruitment activities associated with any chapter may be held at or in conjunction with a tavern or alcohol distributor as defined in this policy.

8. No member, new member, or associate/novice member shall permit, tolerate, encourage, or participate in “drinking games”. The definition of drinking games includes but is not limited to the consumption of shots of alcohol, liquor, or alcoholic beverages, the practice of consuming shots equating to one’s age, “beer pong”, “century club”, “dares” or any other activity involving the consumption of alcohol which involves duress or encouragement related to the consumption of alcohol.
9. No alcohol shall be present at any pledge/new member/associate member/novice program, activity or ritual of the chapter. This includes but is not limited to activities associated with bid acceptance/bid night, big brother/little brother/father/son/family events or activities, big sister/little sister/mother/daughter/family events, or initiation.
10. If any member or guest appears to be even slightly intoxicated at any chapter function, chapter members shall safely escort said person from the function. The chapter must undertake all reasonable efforts to prevent intoxicated persons from driving automobiles or walking themselves home. Such persons must be accompanied by a sober and responsible member who is not under the influence of alcohol or other controlled substances.

-Adapted from the FIPG, Inc. Risk Management Policy (June 2008 Revisions)

University Position Regarding Use of Alcohol

Southeast Missouri State University does not consider the use of alcoholic beverages as necessary or conducive to the processes of higher education. **Southeast Missouri State University students are expected to abide by the laws of the State of Missouri, the City of Cape Girardeau, and the Student Code of Conduct and any related policies relative to the possession, consumption and serving of alcohol.**

Situations involving inappropriate or illegal possession, consumption or serving of alcohol will lead to the confiscation and/or disposal of the alcoholic beverages present.

Use of alcohol which jeopardizes or endangers the welfare of oneself or others, or contributes to other irresponsible or offensive action or behavior, is a violation of University regulations. All students and groups are subject to disciplinary action for violation of Southeast Missouri State University policy pertaining to the possession, consumption or serving of alcohol. In addition to other sanctions which may be applied, **any individual or group found responsible for violation of these policies may be sanctioned.**

Opening Week and Finals Time Regulations

All chapter social functions for the semester must be concluded on the Saturday prior to Finals Week.

Definition of a Party/Social

For purposes of definition, "parties" will be defined as any gathering of individuals which creates a festive-like atmosphere by, for example, consuming alcoholic beverages, creating noise, and by their manner, being disruptive to others.

The central guiding principle in this regulation is that individuals and groups need to be considerate of others around them, and that a person's right to study and to sleep will take precedence over another person's desire to socialize. In particular, University disciplinary action shall be taken when conduct adversely affects the University community's pursuit of its education objectives.

Additional Social Host Responsibilities

1. The chapter is responsible for maintaining a responsible atmosphere within all areas of the house/lodge, or area where social function is held, which includes off campus events.
2. A chapter is responsible for maintaining proper occupancy levels within all areas of the house/lodge, or area where a social function is held. All fire exits leading from the areas should be accessible to all occupants and readily identifiable.
3. In the event of an emergency or violation of this policy, contact the Department of Public Safety immediately (ext. 2215 or 911).
4. All violations should be reported to the Department of Public Safety and the Assistant Director for Fraternities and Sororities.

-Adapted from the FIPG, Inc. Risk Management Policy (12/97)

Sexual Abuse and Harassment

The fraternity/sorority will not tolerate or condone any form of sexist or sexually abusive behavior on the part of its members, whether physical, mental or emotional. This is to include any actions which are demeaning to women or men including but not limited to date rape, gang rape or verbal harassment.

1. Physical abuse, sexual misconduct, verbal abuse, threats, intimidation, harassment, coercion and/or other conduct which (a) submits any person to pain, discomfort or indignity or (b) threatens or endangers the physical or mental health or safety of any person. Refer to Judicial Affairs' Sexual Assault Policy for more information.

-See Code of Student Conduct, excerpt Section 1: Item 4, June 2006.

Fire, Health and Safety

1. All chapter houses should meet all local fire and health codes and standards.
2. All chapters should have posted by common phones emergency numbers for 911, fire, police and ambulance and should have posted evacuation routes on the back of the door of each sleeping room.
3. All chapters should comply with engineering recommendations as reported by the insurance company.
4. The possession and/or use of fireworks, firearms or explosive devices of any kind within the confines and premises of the chapter house are expressly forbidden.
5. Chapters residing on campus will know and abide by all policies and guidelines outlined in the Residence Life Resident's Handbook and Understandings.

-Adapted from the FIPG, Inc. Risk Management Policy (12/97)

Hazing Policy

The Southeast Missouri State University Hazing policy is outlined in the Student Code of Conduct, Section 1: Item 5, June 2006. All individual students and organizations are expected to follow this policy in conjunction with their inter/national, insurance company, and appropriate governing council policies. Following is the University's Hazing Policy excerpted from the Student Code of Conduct.

5. Hazing for the purpose of pledging, initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for maintaining membership in a group, organization, or team. Hazing is defined as any intentional, knowing or reckless act, whether on or off campus, which endangers the mental or physical health or safety of any person, regardless of consent, or which violates public law or University policy. Hazing includes, but is not limited to a) any physical brutality such as whipping, beating, striking, paddling, branding, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or similar activity; b) any physical activity such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement, calisthenics, or other activity that subjects a student to risk of harm, or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of a student; c) any activity involving consumption of food, liquid, alcoholic beverage, drug, or substance that subjects a student to risk of harm, or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of a student; d) any activity that intimidates or threatens a student with ostracism, subjects a student to extreme mental stress, shame or humiliation, or adversely affects the mental health or dignity of a student, or that may reasonably be expected to cause a student to leave the organization or institution rather than submit to acts described above; and, e) any activity in which a person solicits, plans, encourages, directs, aids, or attempts to aid another in hazing or intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly permits hazing to occur and/or knowingly fails to report the incident.

Education

Each fraternity/sorority shall annually instruct its members in risk management, specifically with the policies of Southeast Missouri State University and their inter/national organization.

Adopted unanimous by IFC, NPC, & NPHC on October 9, 2003 at Presidents' Council